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3 Feb 67

by []

TALKING PAPER FOR USE WITH GENERAL GEHLEN

1. Our Headquarters has asked me to release Mr. [] for another appointment. The prospective assignment is such a unique career opportunity for Mr. [] that it would not be fair for me to interpose any objection; nevertheless, we are going to be able to keep Mr. [] until summer. We have already started looking for another senior officer to replace him. This is not an easy post to fill, and we have always been selective. I hope, however, to have a suitable man to represent me here.

2. While we are talking about personnel, I thought I'd like to talk to you about my impressions of our liaison. I mentioned this at Mr. []'s Christmas dinner. I have been here long enough now to have got a good sense of our service relationships, both in the past and present, as well as a feeling for the future.

3. I am at ease and of good cheer about our relationship. Your comments to me and to others about the deep nature of our ties and the quality of these relationships have been confirmed by my own observation. Your phrase about knowing each other so well that we can be frank with

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each other reflects my thinking, too.

4. As I look to the future in our relationships, I see a continued close contact. Although your independence has long been established--over ten years now--this has not affected the closeness and cordiality of our services. We continue to operate together on a broad basis, in strategic terms, you might say. Although for years now we have not concerned ourselves with small operational matters--particular cases, for example--our ties have continued to bring us together for mutual consideration of the broadest problems in our profession. That is why I have not felt uneasy when it became obvious that Vietnam and China, as well as the accompanying budget problems, were going to cost us some people here in the German Station.

5. This reflects itself in Munich, too, and I don't want you, therefore, to misunderstand if in the next six to eight months we should fail to replace one or another of our officers. This willingness to cut back here is based on our confidence in our relationship with your organization. We are simply going to have to sacrifice men in Munich to be able to man our positions on the front lines. I want to tell you this to yourself first so that there will be no misinterpretation as our consolidation takes effect.

6. To come back to the matter of Mr. []'s transfer for a moment, it is not connected with the manpower problems to which I have just been referring. (I would not want it to get any farther than yourself, but I can say for your ears only that our mutual friend Jim is the thief in the matter of Mr. [] .)

7. But to go back to our manpower problem: We may even have to go so far in the course of the next year or so as to take our liaison base chief and add to his duties those of my local []

[] " which functions in the [] I may have to move the base chief over to the [] to do this. The rest of the personnel, however, would probably stay for the moment where they are. One thing that we are

pretty well assured of, however, that is, in the field of broad exchange on a strategic level between my old directorate, the DDI, and []'s office, there would certainly be no break in the close contact. We also hope that the continued and increasing closeness in the field of SIGINT can go on without any sacrifice in manpower. (The military representatives, of course, are not affected, either.)

8. Speaking of DDI, one of the interesting things I've heard reflected from the November meeting of General

and his men with our people in Washington was the high praise of your younger generation. I certainly hope that as time goes on during my tenure here in Germany, you will continue to bring your younger people into contact with us, so that they too will absorb the history and tradition of our special relationship. I would hate to see this unique comradeship wither away simply because the older generation didn't bring the younger generation into the tradition, not that this is the case! I hope that on both our sides, as time goes on, we can continue to get our second generation people in the picture.

9. To summarize, I wanted to be able to tell you of our personnel problems of the next six or eight months so that there would be no misunderstanding about our motives or what was impelling us to appear, at any rate, to be withdrawing somewhat. We are not withdrawing in anything but a few selected positions, and we are reducing only because we feel secure in our relationship with you. We are certainly not withdrawing in spirit as I hope will become evident to you as time goes on.

D. A. M.

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